

2016 Statewide Primary and General Election:

A Candidate's Guide



A Candidate's Guide to the 2016 Statewide Primary and General Election

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Important Dates

Filing Period	
Candidate Filing Period Begins	Tuesday, December 1, 2015 (12:00 noon)
Last Day to Withdraw as a Candidate	Wednesday, December 16, 2015 (5:00 p.m.)
Candidate Filing Period Ends	Monday, December 21, 2015 (12:00 noon)
Statewide Primary	
Absentee Voting by Mail Begins	Monday, January 25, 2016
Voter Registration Deadline	Friday, February 19, 2016
One-stop Voting Begins	Thursday, March 3, 2016
Last Day to Request an Absentee Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, March 8, 2016
One-stop Voting Ends	Saturday, March 12, 2016 (1:00 pm)
Last Day to Return an Absentee Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, March 15, 2016 (5:00 pm)
Primary Election Day	Tuesday, March 15, 2016
County Canvass	Tuesday, March 22, 2016
Last Day to Request Second Primary	Thursday, March 24, 2016 (12:00 noon)
Last Day to File an Election Protest*	Thursday, March 24, 2016
Second Primary Election (if needed) (Date is contingent upon whether any federal contest requires a second primary)	
2nd Primary Election Day	Tuesday, May 3, 2016 (no federal contest involved)
County Canvass	Tuesday, May 10, 2016
2nd Primary Election Day	Tuesday, May 24, 2016 (federal contest involved)
County Canvass	Tuesday, May 31, 2016
Statewide General Election	
Absentee Voting by Mail Begins	Friday, September 9, 2016
Voter Registration Deadline	Friday, October 14, 2016
One-stop Voting Begins	Thursday, October 27, 2016
Last Day to Request an Absentee Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, November 1, 2016
One-stop Voting Ends	Saturday, November 5, 2016 (1:00 pm)
Last Day to Return an Absentee Ballot by Mail	Tuesday, November 8, 2016 (5:00 pm)
Election Day	Tuesday, November 8, 2016
County Canvass Day	Friday, November 18, 2016
Last Day to File an Election Protest*	Thursday, November 22, 2016
State Canvass Day	Tuesday, November 29, 2016

* If the election protest concerns the ballot count or election equipment, the protest must be received before the County Canvass. All election protests must be submitted on the official protest forms.

Candidate Filing Information

Candidate Filing Period

The candidate filing period for the 2016 Statewide Primary and General Election period begins at noon on [December 1, 2015](#) and ends at noon on [December 21, 2015](#).

Eligibility to File

For purposes of the 2016 Statewide Primary and General Election, no person shall be permitted to file as a candidate in a party primary unless that person has been affiliated with that party for at least 75 days as of the date of that person filing such notice of candidacy. A person registered as "unaffiliated" shall be ineligible to file as a candidate in a party primary election.

If a person changed party affiliation after October 7, 2015, he will not be eligible to file as a candidate in a partisan primary contest.

Specific to the contest in which the candidate desires to file, there may be other filing requirements based on age and residency.

Party Date	Eligible to File as of:
9/17/2015	Tuesday, December 1, 2015
9/18/2015	Wednesday, December 2, 2015
9/19/2015	Thursday, December 3, 2015
9/20/2015	Friday, December 4, 2015
9/21/2015	Saturday, December 5, 2015 (file as of 12/7/15)
9/22/2015	Sunday, December 6, 2015 (file as of 12/7/15)
9/23/2015	Monday, December 7, 2015
9/24/2015	Tuesday, December 8, 2015
9/25/2015	Wednesday, December 9, 2015
9/26/2015	Thursday, December 10, 2015
9/27/2015	Friday, December 11, 2015
9/28/2015	Saturday, December 12, 2015 (file as of 12/14/15)
9/29/2015	Sunday, December 13, 2015 (file as of 12/14/15)
9/30/2015	Monday, December 14, 2015
10/1/2015	Tuesday, December 15, 2015
10/2/2015	Wednesday, December 16, 2015
10/3/2015	Thursday, December 17, 2015
10/4/2015	Friday, December 18, 2015
10/5/2015	Saturday, December 19, 2015 (file as of 12/21/15)
10/6/2015	Sunday, December 20, 2015 (file as of 12/21/15)
10/7/2015	Monday, December 21, 2015

Completing the Notice of Candidacy

To be listed on the 2016 Statewide primary ballot, or if nominated for the 2016 general election ballot without the necessity of a primary, a candidate must file a *Notice of Candidacy* with the proper board of elections. Each candidate must sign the *Notice* in the presence of the chairman, secretary, or director of the board of elections, State or county, with which the candidate files. In the alternative, a candidate may have the candidate's signature on the *Notice* acknowledged and certified by a Notary Public, in which case the candidate may mail or deliver by commercial courier service the candidate's notice of candidacy to the appropriate board of elections.

In signing the *Notice*, the candidate shall use only that candidate's legal name. A candidate may also, in lieu of that candidate's legal first name and legal middle initial or middle name (if any) sign a nickname, provided that the candidate signs an affidavit that the candidate has been commonly known by that nickname for at least five years prior to the date of making the affidavit. The candidate shall also include with the affidavit the way that candidate's name (as permitted by law) should be listed on the ballot if another candidate with the same last name files a *Notice* for that office. The names of the candidates as they appear on their *Notice* will appear on the official ballots. No title, appendage, or appellation indicating rank, status, or position shall be printed on the official ballot in connection with a candidate's name. Candidates, however, may use the title Mr., Mrs., Miss, or Ms. Legitimate nicknames may be permitted on an official ballot if used in the *Notice*, but the nickname may not mislead voters or unduly advertise the candidacy and shall appear within parentheses.

Guidelines for Candidate Names On Ballots	Example(s): <i>Legal Name: George Eugene Smith</i>	
	Allowed	Not Allowed
A candidate can use either first or middle name before the last name (no Nickname Affidavit necessary)	George Smith Eugene Smith	
A candidate can abbreviate using the first letter of either his first or middle name (but not last name) (no Nickname Affidavit necessary).	G. Smith G. E. Smith George E. Smith G. Eugene Smith	George S. G. E. S.
A candidate can choose to include a suffix (no Nickname affidavit necessary).	George Smith George Smith, Jr. George Smith III	
The ONLY title allowed along with a name is Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms.	Mr. George Smith	General George Smith Gov. George Smith Judge George Smith George Smith, Esq.
If a Nickname affidavit is completed, the nickname must either be used in place of the first or middle name, or following the first/middle name in parenthesis. Nicknames cannot indicate rank, status or position. Any shortening of a name as it appears in the voter record, other than abbreviation to the first letter, requires a Nickname Affidavit (such as "Dave" if the voter registration lists the first name as "David")	George (Joey) Smith George E. (Joey) Smith George Eugene (Joey) Smith Eugene (Joey) Smith Joey Smith	George "Smith" McCue George (Vote For Me) Smith George (The Judge) Smith George (Winner) Smith

Disclosure of Felony Conviction

At the same time that a candidate files their notice of candidacy, the candidate shall file a statement answering the following question: "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" A felony conviction need not be disclosed if the conviction was dismissed as a result of reversal on appeal or resulted in a pardon of innocence or expungement. This statement on the form is a public record in the office of the board of elections where a candidate files notice of candidacy. If a candidate does not complete the statement required by this subsection, the board of elections accepting the filing will notify the candidate of the omission, and the candidate will have 48 hours after notice to complete the statement. If the candidate does not complete the statement at the time of filing or within 48 hours after the notice, the individual's filing is not complete, the individual's name shall not appear on the ballot as a candidate, and votes for the individual shall not be counted. **It is a Class I felony to complete the Notice of Candidacy form knowing that information as to felony conviction or restoration of citizenship is untrue.**

State Bar Number

Judicial and district attorney candidates must provide their N.C. State Bar Number on the notice of candidacy form.

Where to File

Notices of Candidacy for the following contests must be filed with the State Board of Elections:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- All State executive officers
- United States Senators
- Members of the House of Representatives of the United States
- All Judicial contests
- District attorneys

Prior to presenting at the State Board of Elections or mailing their *Notice of Candidacy*, candidates must have their local Board of Elections sign a verification on the *Notice* that the candidate is a registered North Carolina voter in the proper jurisdiction. These candidates should visit their local Board of Elections office to receive this written confirmation.

Candidates seeking party primary nominations for the following offices shall file their *Notice* with their county board of elections:

- State Senators
- Members of the State House of Representatives
- All county offices
- All local or municipal offices

Withdrawal of Notice of Candidacy

Any person who has filed a *Notice of Candidacy* for an office shall have the right to withdraw it at any time prior to the close of business on the third business day prior to the date on which the right to file for that office expires. For purposes of the 2016 Statewide Primary and General Election, the deadline to withdraw a *Notice of Candidacy* is 5:00 p.m. on **December 16, 2015**. **If a candidate does not withdraw before this deadline, his name shall be printed on the primary ballot, any votes for him shall be counted, and he shall not be refunded his filing fee.** No person may file a *Notice* for more than one office for any one election. If a person has filed a *Notice of Candidacy* with a board of elections, then a *Notice* may not later be filed for any other office when the election is on the same date unless the *Notice* for the first office is withdrawn by the deadline.

Statewide Candidate Filing List

The State Board of Elections will make available on its website a list of all candidates who file for state, county and local contests during the candidate filing period. This list will be updated at least three times daily during normal business hours (approximately at 11:00 a.m.; 2:00 p.m.; and 5:00 p.m.).

Ballot Layout

Order of Candidate Names for Primary Contests

The list of candidates' names for primary contests will be determined after the end of the candidate filing period. In a contest, if one or more candidates' last name begins with the same letter, then the order of the candidates' names on the ballot for that contest will then be in regular alphabetical order based upon the subsequent letters in those candidates' last name. If one or more candidates in a contest have the same last name, then the the order of the candidates' names on the ballot for that contest will then be in regular alphabetical order based on the candidates' first name.

The State Board of Elections will stream live the selection of the candidate filing order on its website. The selection date and time will be December 21, 2015 at 12:05 p.m. Check the State Board of Elections website (www.NCSBE.gov) for further information.

Order of Candidates Names for General Election Contests

The list of candidates' names for General Election contests will be in order of the nominee: for (1) the Republican Party; (2) the Democratic Party; (3) the Libertarian Party; and (4) any candidates that qualified to run as an unaffiliated candidate.

No Straight-Party Voting

On the ballots for a General Election contest, there will not be an option that allows a voter with one mark to vote for the candidates of a party for more than one office. Straight-party voting was eliminated in North Carolina. Voters may only vote for each partisan contest item on the General Election ballot separately.

Voter Registration Information

In order to vote in North Carolina, a person must be a qualified registered voter. The deadline to register to vote, change name or address, or change party affiliation is **25 days** before the date of an election. The voter registration deadline for the March 15, 2016 Statewide Primary is [Friday, February 19, 2016](#). Individuals may be able to register to vote and vote during the early voting period prior to the Statewide Primary. However, due to ongoing litigation, it is not certain if this will be an alternative during early voting, so we encourage everyone to register prior to the [Friday, February 19, 2016](#), deadline. If a second primary is needed, either on May 3, 2016 or May 24, 2016, the voter registration books will continue to be closed until the conclusion of the second primary. There can be no registration of voters between the dates of the first and second primaries. The voter registration deadline for the November 8, 2016 General Election is [Friday, October 14, 2016](#).

Special Note Concerning 17 year-olds

North Carolina law permits citizens who are at least 17 years of age to register to vote and vote in a *primary election*, as long as the person will be 18 years of age on the date of the *general election*. However, these individuals may register starting **no earlier than 60 days** prior to the date of the primary election. For the 2016 Statewide Primary, 17 year-olds who will turn 18 years of age on or before November 8, 2016 (the date of the 2016 General Election) may begin to register to vote on [Friday, January 15, 2016](#). Although 17 year-olds will be able to vote in the March 15th election event, they will only be eligible to vote in primary contests and will not be able to vote for any bond, referenda, or final contests for school board, municipal offices, or other local matters where the primary election event date will also be the general election for these contests. There will be special ballots for 17 year-olds that will exclude ineligible contests.

Same-Day Registration

Persons who are not registered in a county *may* be able to register to vote during the One-stop early voting period. This process is called "Same-Day Registration." The North Carolina General Assembly repealed Same-Day registration in 2013. However, it is currently permitted due to a preliminary injunction granted under a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. This option remains the subject of ongoing litigation in federal court. Therefore, registering by the [February 19, 2016](#), deadline will ensure voters are registered in time to vote on March 15, 2016.

If Same-Day Registration is allowed, a person must complete a voter registration application and show an election official proof of their residential address in the county. Their "proof of address" may consist of a current and valid photo ID or a document showing the name and current address of the applicant. To be current, the document must be the most recent version or at least dated within 60 days of the date it is presented to an election official. Copies of acceptable documents are permissible. The original is not required. It is also permissible for a voter to present an electronic or online version of a document, as long as the document is obtained from the original source (e.g., e-Bills from utility companies, electronic bank statements, electronic earnings statement from employer, etc.) and shows his or her current name and address.

Within two business days of the person's registration, the county board of elections will verify the persons' drivers license or Social Security number, update the voter registration database, search for possible duplicate registrations, and proceed to verify the registrant's address by mail. The registrant's vote will be counted unless the county board of elections determines that the registrant is not qualified to vote.

Voter Registration Drives

It is permissible for candidates and their campaigns to distribute voter registration applications or otherwise participate in or conduct voter registration drives. No special training is required. Voter registration applications may be picked up in county boards of elections offices in quantities up to 100. Larger quantities may be requested from the State Board of Elections: (<http://www.ncsbe.gov/ncsbe/Portals/0/FilesP/VRDriveSuppliesRequestForm.pdf>). The applications will be mailed directly to the person or entity requesting the forms.

When conducting a voter registration drive, voter registration applications that are collected from applicants should be mailed to the appropriate county board of elections. (The address for local boards of elections is available at www.ncsbe.gov.) Forms received by the State Board of Elections will be routed to the proper county board of elections. Although the State Board of Elections will mail applications to the proper county, in the interest of time, candidates, campaigns and voter registration drive organizers are strongly encouraged to route completed applications directly to applicants' proper county board of elections.

Persons or entities conducting voter registration drives should be mindful of the following statute:

§ 163-82.6. Acceptance of application forms.

(a) How the Form May Be Submitted. - The county board of elections shall accept any form . . . if the applicant submits the form by mail, facsimile transmission, transmission of a scanned document, or in person. The applicant may delegate the submission of the form to another person. Any person who communicates to an applicant acceptance of that delegation shall deliver that form so that it is received by the appropriate county board of elections in time to satisfy the registration deadline . . . for the next election. It shall be a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to communicate to the applicant acceptance of that delegation and then fail to make a good faith effort to deliver the form so that it is received by the county board of elections in time to satisfy the registration deadline . . . for the next election. It shall be an affirmative defense to a charge of failing to make a good faith effort to deliver a delegated form by the registration deadline that the delegatee informed the applicant that the form would not likely be delivered in time for the applicant to vote in the next election. It shall be a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to sell or attempt to sell a completed voter registration form or to condition its delivery upon payment.

(a1) Misdemeanors. - It shall be a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to do any of the following:

(1) To communicate to the applicant acceptance of the delegation described in subsection (a) of this section and then fail to make a good faith effort to deliver the form so that it is received by the county board of elections in time to satisfy the registration deadline . . . for the next election. It shall be an affirmative defense to a charge of failing to make a good faith effort to deliver a delegated form by the registration deadline that the delegatee informed the applicant that the form would not likely be delivered in time for the applicant to vote in the next election.

(2) To sell or attempt to sell a completed voter registration form or to condition its delivery upon payment.

(3) To change a person's information on a voter registration form prior to its delivery to a county board of elections.

(4) To coerce a person into marking a party affiliation other than the party affiliation the person desires.

(5) To offer a person a voter registration form that has a party affiliation premarked unless the person receiving the form has requested the premarking.

(b) Signature. - The form shall be valid only if signed by the applicant. An electronically captured signature, including signatures on applications generated by computer programs of third-party groups, shall not be valid on a voter registration form

Voter Challenges

On the day of a primary or general election, any registered voter of the same county has the right to challenge the right to vote of any registered voter who presents to vote. Election Day challenges are no longer limited to voters who reside in the same precinct. Challenges of absentee voters, including voters at One-stop early voting sites, still may only be made by a voter of the same precinct as the challenged voter. Challenges of absentee voters should be made on Election Day between noon and 5pm. These challenges can be made in the precinct or the county board of elections.

Voting Information

There are three methods by which a registered voter may cast a ballot in North Carolina:

Absentee By-Mail

Absentee voting by-mail permits eligible voters to request, receive and return a ballot by mail. Absentee ballots for the Statewide Primary in March will be available as of **January 25, 2016**. Absentee ballots for the Statewide General election in November will be available as of **September 9, 2016**.

Absentee One-stop Voting

Absentee One-stop Voting – or “Early Voting” – permits voters to request, receive and vote an absentee ballot in-person. Absentee One-stop Voting begins on the second Thursday prior to the date of an election and ends at 1:00 p.m. on the last Saturday before Election Day. During the One-stop absentee voting period, registered voters may vote at any One-stop early voting site in their county of residence. Early voting hours vary by county and location. Voters should check the One-stop absentee schedule in their county to determine specific hours for each early voting site. The schedule for early voting is typically posted by the start of the absentee voting by mail period.

Election Day

The hours for voting on Election Day are 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Any voter that is in line at 7:30 p.m. will be allowed to vote. On Election Day, registered voters should vote in their proper precinct in order to receive their correct ballot style. A voter's proper precinct is determined by the address where the voter has resided for 30 or more days prior to the date of an election. Voters who present to vote at a polling site other than the one for their proper precinct, will be offered a provisional ballot. The county board of elections will review all provisional applications and will make the determination of whether to count the ballot based on current North Carolina law.

Voting Procedures

When voting in person, a voter shall enter the voting enclosure and a precinct official assigned to check registration will at once ask the voter to state his or her current name and residence address. The voter shall answer by stating his or her current name and residence address and presenting acceptable photo identification. In a primary election, the voter will also be asked to state the political party with which the voter is affiliated or, if unaffiliated, the party in which the voter wishes to vote. The election official will examine the registration list to determine if the voter is duly registered and eligible to vote in the current election. The election official will also determine if the photo ID presented by the voter bears a reasonable resemblance to the voter. If the voter is duly registered and eligible to vote in the election and has presented acceptable photo ID, the voter will be required to sign an authorization to vote document, One-stop application, poll book, or other voting record and will then be directed to cast his ballot. Voters who present without acceptable photo ID will be offered alternative voting options, including the option to vote a provisional ballot, and if the absentee deadline has not passed, the option to request an absentee ballot that can be mailed to the voter. If a voter does not have acceptable photo ID and is unable to obtain acceptable photo ID, the voter will be allowed to vote after completing a “Reasonable Impediment Declaration” that identifies the reason the voter could not obtain acceptable photo ID.

Voter Assistance

A voter in any of the following four categories is entitled to assistance from a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union:

- A voter who, on account of physical disability, is unable to enter the voting booth without assistance.
- A voter who, on account of physical disability, is unable to mark a ballot without assistance.
- A voter who, on account of illiteracy, is unable to mark a ballot without assistance.
- A voter who, on account of blindness, is unable to enter the voting booth or mark a ballot without assistance.

With the exception of those prohibited by law, any voter that is entitled to assistance -- has a physical disability; is visually impaired; or is illiterate -- may *request* assistance when they present to vote. Any voter requesting assistance while voting at a One-Stop voting site is entitled to the same assistance as voters who vote on Election Day. There is no prohibition against a candidate assisting a voter if the voter is qualified for assistance. There is also no prohibition against a person assisting multiple voters if those voters are entitled to assistance. Voters are not entitled to assistance from the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union.

Voters that are not entitled to assistance in accordance with the preceding four categories are entitled to receive assistance from the voter's spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild, as chosen by the voter.

Curbside Voting

If any qualified voter is able to travel to a voting place, but because of age or physical disability and physical barriers encountered at the voting place is unable to enter the voting enclosure to vote in person without physical assistance, that voter is allowed to vote in the vehicle conveying that voter. Every One-stop site and election day polling place will have spaces outside the voting place dedicated to curbside voting. Curbside voters may be assisted in their vehicles according to the same rules as voters who present inside a voting place.

When Ballots Are Counted

All election results on election night are unofficial. An election is not complete until the county canvass, and for some contests, until the state canvass.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots (including One-stop absentee ballots) are counted at 5:00 p.m. on Election Day, or in some cases, may be counted as early as 2:00 p.m. County Boards of Elections may not release absentee results until after the close of the polls. Absentee ballots that are timely received *after* Election Day, will be counted as part of the final canvass.

Election Day Ballots

Ballots cast on Election Day are counted after the close of the polls. Polls close at 7:30 p.m.

Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots are researched after Election Day and if the provisional voter is determined to be eligible to vote, his or her ballot will be counted prior to the county's canvass of the election results.

County Canvass

The county canvass is the meeting where election results in a county become official. The county canvass meeting is conducted 7 days after Election Day in all elections except a General Election. The county canvass for a General Election is 10 days after Election Day. During the canvassing period, county boards of elections will also count eligible civilian, military or overseas absentee ballots that are received after Election Day. Until the county canvass, all election results posted by the county or the State Board of Elections are unofficial. These are the specific dates for the 2016 county canvass meetings:

Election Event	County Canvass
Statewide Primary	March 22, 2016
Statewide General Election	November 18, 2016

State Canvass

National offices, state offices, multi-county legislative offices, superior court judge, district court judge, district attorney, and statewide and multi-county referenda contests must be canvassed by the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections will set the date for the State Canvass for primary elections. The date of the State Canvass for the 2016 General Election is [Tuesday, November 29, 2016](#).

Procedure for Requesting Second Primary

A candidate who is entitled to demand a second primary, according to the unofficial results, must file a written request for a second primary in writing no later than 12:00 noon on the ninth day (including Saturdays and Sundays) following the date on which the primary was conducted. For the 2016 Statewide Primary, the deadline for a candidate to file a written request for a second primary is noon on [Thursday, March 24, 2016](#). The written request must be filed with the appropriate board of elections office where the candidate filed his notice of candidacy.

Photo ID Requirements

When voting in person, voters will be asked to show an acceptable type of Photo ID.

The acceptable types of photo ID are:

NC DMV Driver License	A drivers license issued by the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles including a learner's permit or a provisional license. These cards may be expired up to four (4) years before they are presented for voting.
NC DMV State Identification Card	A state identification card issued by the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles. These cards may be expired up to four (4) years before it is presented for voting.
U.S. Passport	A United States passport (unexpired), including both the passport book and passport card, issued by the United States Department of State.
U.S. Military ID	A United States Military ID Card issued by the United States Department of Defense, including those issued to dependents, retired military personnel, or civilians. A Military ID bearing an expiration date must be unexpired, but Military ID cards without an expiration date are also acceptable.
Veterans ID Card	A Veterans ID Card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. A Veterans ID card bearing an expiration must be unexpired, but Veterans ID cards without an expiration are also acceptable.
Tribal Enrollment Cards	A tribal enrollment card issued by a federally-recognized tribe. If the card bears an expiration date, it must be unexpired. If it does not bear an expiration date, it must bear a printed issuance date that is not older than eight (8) years before it is presented for voting. A tribal enrollment card issued by a state-recognized tribe, provided that it has been approved by the State Board of Elections. This card must be unexpired.
Out-of-State License or ID Card	A driver license or non-operators identification card issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or a territory or commonwealth of the United States, but only if the voter registered to vote within ninety (90) days of the election. This card must be unexpired.

Photo ID Exceptions

In certain circumstances, some voters will not be required to show a photo ID:

Religious Objection

- Voters who have a sincerely held religious objection to being photographed may file a declaration with their county board of elections and will not be required to present photo ID. If a voter does not file a declaration at least twenty-five (25) days before the election, he may cast a provisional ballot. The ballot will be counted if the voter later appears in person at the county board of elections to execute the declaration and provides an acceptable document showing the voter's name and address. Acceptable documents include a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government-issued document.

Curbside Voters

- Voters who qualify under the curbside voting provision may present either an acceptable photo ID or an acceptable document showing name and address. Acceptable documents include a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government-issued document.

Natural Disaster

- Voters will not be required to show photo ID if the voter declares that he is a victim of a natural disaster that occurred within 60 days of the election date. The voter must reside in a county that has officially been declared a natural disaster area by either the Governor of North Carolina or the President of the United States.

Absentee Voting By-Mail

- Photo ID is not required for a mail-in absentee ballot.

Alternative Options for Voters Who Do Not Present Photo ID

Any voter who does not present an acceptable type of photo ID when he presents to vote will be notified of the following options:

Vote a Provisional Ballot

- The voter would be offered the opportunity to vote a provisional official ballot. The voter would be required to appear in person at the county board of elections to present acceptable identification no later than 12:00 noon the day prior to the time set for the convening of the election canvass.

Vote a Provisional Ballot under the Reasonable Impediment Provision

- The voter would be offered the opportunity to complete a reasonable impediment declaration and vote a provisional ballot.

Request and Vote an Absentee Voting By-Mail

- The voter would be offered the opportunity to complete a written request for a mail-in absentee ballot **until the deadline for submission of requests for absentee ballots.**

Reasonable Impediment Provision

Voters who are *unable to obtain* an acceptable photo ID due to a reasonable impediment may vote a provisional ballot. Examples of a reasonable impediment include but are not limited to the lack of proper documents, family obligations, transportation problems, work schedule, illness or disability, among other reasonable impediments faced by the voter. In addition to completing a provisional voting application, these voters would also be asked to:

- 1) Sign a declaration (*Reasonable Impediment Declaration*) describing their impediment; and
- 2) Provide one of the following:
 - Date of birth and last four digits of their Social Security number; or
 - Current voter registration card; or
 - Copy of an acceptable document bearing their name and address. (Acceptable documents include a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government-issued document.)

The provisional ballot will be counted when the information on the declaration is verified and all other eligibility requirements are met. Verifying information on the declaration **does not** include verification of the stated impediment.

Photo ID Implementation

Over the past year, there have been numerous efforts underway to educate voters regarding photo identification requirements that will begin with the 2016 elections. The State Board of Elections has a voter outreach team that has been leading these efforts to ensure that North Carolina voters are not only aware of the photo ID requirements, but for those who do not have an acceptable type of photo ID, that they have access to resources to help them obtain a photo ID at no cost from the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles Drivers License office. *Please see the materials in the back of this guide for some of the resources that are available for distribution to candidates, campaigns and voters regarding photo ID requirements.*

Absentee Voting Summary

Any North Carolina registered voter who is qualified to vote in an election can request and receive a mail-in absentee ballot for any election in which absentee voting is allowed. No special circumstance or excuse is needed to receive and vote a mail-in absentee ballot. For non-military or overseas voters, an absentee ballot must be requested for each election in which a voter desires to vote absentee by-mail. Military or overseas voters have special rights under the *Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* (UOCAVA). See www.fvap.gov for more information on military and overseas citizens absentee voting.

Requesting an Absentee Ballot

To receive a mail-in absentee ballot for an election, a voter or the voter's near relative (spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild) or legal guardian must use the *State Absentee Ballot Request Form* to request the ballot. A signed and completed *State Absentee Ballot Request Form* must be **received** by the county board of elections' office no later than **5:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday prior to the date of the election** for which the ballot is being requested. The table below shows the deadline by which a request for an absentee ballot for an election event in 2016 must be received:

2016 Election Event	Absentee Request Deadline
Statewide Primary	March 8, 2016
Second Primary (if no federal contest)	April 26, 2016
Second Primary (if federal contests)	May 17, 2016
Statewide General	November 1, 2016

As long as the form is **received** by the county board of elections by the date referenced above, a request form may be mailed, faxed, e-mailed (with actual signature) or delivered in person. Regardless of a postmark date, requests that are received *after* the absentee request deadline will not be deemed timely. Requests forms that are timely delivered to the State Board of Elections will be considered timely as if the form was actually received by the appropriate county board of elections. In the interest of ensuring that county boards of elections can promptly process voters' absentee requests, **it is strongly recommended that forms are initially routed to the appropriate county board of elections.**

State Absentee Ballot Request Forms are available on the State Board of Elections' website (www.NCSBE.gov) or on county boards of elections' websites. A copy of the form may also be picked up in person from board of elections offices. It is permissible to make copies of the form for distribution. It is not permissible for candidates, campaigns, individuals or groups to create their own absentee ballot request form.

Completing the State Absentee Ballot Request Form

The *State Absentee Ballot Request Form* may only be signed by the voter or a near relative or legal guardian of the voter. When completing the form, the voter or the requestor must sign and provide the voter's name, residential address, date of birth, and an identification number for the voter (NC DMV driver license number, NC DMV identification card number, or the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number.) If an identification number is not provided on the form, then the requestor must submit one of the documents listed below along with the completed form:

- A copy of one of the following documents that shows the name and address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

If a person other than the voter (a near relative or legal guardian) makes the request, then the requestor must also provide his or her name and residential address on the request form. If requesting a ballot for a partisan primary, and the voter is registered *Unaffiliated*, the voter or requestor should indicate the ballot preference for the voter (in which party's primary the voter wishes to participate). Finally, the voter or requestor must provide the address where the absentee balloting materials are to be mailed, if different from the voter's residential address. If a registered North Carolina voter (including eligible dependents) is absent due to military service or is currently living overseas, then only the actual voter should complete the *State Absentee Ballot Request Form* in order to afford special voting rights to the voter. More information for military and overseas voters is available on the State Board of Elections website.

Receiving the Ballot

If a valid request is received, the county board of elections will mail the voter absentee balloting materials to the address provided on the request form when absentee ballots are available.

- Absentee ballots will be available **50 days** prior to the Statewide Primary (**January 25, 2016**).
- Absentee ballots will be available **60 days** prior to the Statewide General Election (**September 9, 2016**).
- If there is a need for a second primary, but no federal contest requires a second primary, the date of the election will be May 3, 2016 and absentee ballots will be available as soon as practicable.
- If a federal contest *does* require a second primary, then the date of the second primary will be May 24, 2016 and absentee ballots will be available on **April 9, 2016**.

The absentee balloting materials will consist of:

- a blank official absentee ballot;
- absentee voting instructions; and
- the *Absentee Application and Certificate* found on the back of the ballot's container-return envelope.

Voting an Absentee Ballot

In the presence of two witnesses (or one witness if the witness is a Notary Public), the voter should mark the ballot, or cause it to be marked according to his or her instructions. Once the ballot is marked, the voter or a person assisting the voter must seal the ballot in the container-return envelope and must then complete the *Absentee Application and Certificate* on the back of the ballot container-return envelope. The voter's two witnesses must complete and sign the envelope in the space designated as *Witnesses' Certification* (or *Alternative Notary-Witness Certification*, if using a Notary Public as the witness). If someone assisted the voter, the assister must also sign and date the certificate in the proper place on the envelope. **Candidates may not witness the absentee ballot container-return envelope of any voter, unless the voter is the candidate's near relative.**

GS § 163-237

(b1) Candidate Witnessing Absentee Ballots of Nonrelative Made Class 2 Misdemeanor. - A person is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor if that person acts as a witness under G.S. 163-231(a) in any primary or election in which the person is a candidate for nomination or election, unless the voter is the candidate's near relative as defined in G.S. 163-230.1(f).

Returning the Voted Ballot

Once the *Absentee Application and Certificate* is fully executed with all relevant signatures, the voted ballot (contained inside of the container-return envelope) must be returned to the County Board of Elections no later than **5:00 p.m.** on **Election Day**. The envelope may be mailed or delivered in person to either the county board of elections office or an open One-stop absentee voting site during the early voting period. Only the voter or the voter's near relative may take possession of the absentee ballot for purposes of returning the ballot to the board of elections. **This means that candidates may not take possession of a non-relative's ballot for purposes of returning the ballot to the board of elections.**

GS § 163-226.3

(6) For any person to take into that person's possession for delivery to a voter or for return to a county board of elections the absentee ballot of any voter, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to a voter's near relative or the voter's verifiable legal guardian

Absentee ballots received after 5:00 p.m. on Election Day will be timely *only* if they are received by mail no later than 5:00 p.m. on the third day following the date of the election and bear a postmark that is dated on or before Election Day.

Absentee Ballot Challenges

The absentee ballot of any voter may be challenged on the day of an election **no earlier than noon and ending no later than 5:00 P.M.** Any registered voter of the same precinct as the absentee voter may challenge that voter's absentee ballot. Each challenged absentee ballot shall be challenged separately. The burden of proof shall be on the challenger. Each challenge shall be made in writing. Each challenge shall specify the reasons why the ballot does not comply with North Carolina law or why the absentee voter is not legally entitled to vote in the particular primary or election. The challenge must be signed by the challenger. Each challenge shall be addressed to the county board of elections. It may be filed with the board at its offices or with the chief judge of the precinct in which the challenger and absentee voter are registered. All absentee ballot challenges will be heard by the county board of elections on the day set for the canvass of the returns.

Absentee Data Files

A record of voters who have requested absentee ballots is available on the State Board of Elections website, available at: <ftp://alt.ncsbe.gov/ENRS/> (look for the zip files entitled "absentee" and then find the proper election event date). These files will continue to be updated through the county canvass date for the election.

Felony Statute

Candidates and their campaign are encouraged to familiarize themselves with unlawful acts related to absentee voting.

§ 163-226.3. Certain acts declared felonies.

(a) Any person who shall, in connection with absentee voting in any election held in this State, do any of the acts or things declared in this section to be unlawful, shall be guilty of a Class I felony. It shall be unlawful:

(1) For any person except the voter's near relative or the voter's verifiable legal guardian to assist the voter to vote an absentee ballot when the voter is voting an absentee ballot other than under the procedure described in G.S. 163-227.2; provided that if there is not a near relative or legal guardian available to assist the voter, the voter may request some other person to give assistance;

(2) For any person to assist a voter to vote an absentee ballot under the absentee voting procedure authorized by G.S. 163-227.2 except as provided in that section;

(3) For a voter who votes an absentee ballot under the procedures authorized by G.S. 163-227.2 to vote that voter's absentee ballot outside of the voting booth or private room provided to the voter for that purpose in or adjacent to the office of the county board of elections or at the additional site provided by G.S. 163-227.2(f1), or to receive assistance except as provided in G.S. 163-227.2;

(4) For any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person, other than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to (i) make a written request pursuant to G.S. 163-230.1 or (ii) sign an application or certificate as a witness, on behalf of a registered voter, who is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this State or for any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person other than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to mark the voter's absentee ballot or assist such a voter in marking an absentee ballot. This subdivision does not apply to members, employees, or volunteers of the county board of elections, if those members, employees, or volunteers are working as part of a bipartisan team trained and authorized by the county board of elections to assist voters with absentee ballots. Each county board of elections shall train and authorize such teams, pursuant to procedures which shall be adopted by the State Board of Elections. If neither the voter's near relative nor a verifiable legal guardian is available to assist the voter, and a bipartisan team is not available to assist the voter within seven calendar days of a telephonic request to the county board of elections, the voter may obtain such assistance from any person other than (i) an owner, manager, director, employee of the hospital, clinic, nursing home, or rest home in which the voter is a patient or resident; (ii) an individual who holds any elective office under the United States, this State, or any political subdivision of this State; (iii) an individual who is a candidate for nomination or election to such office; or (iv) an individual who holds any office in a State, congressional district, county, or precinct political party or organization, or who is a campaign manager or treasurer for any candidate or political party; provided that a delegate to a convention shall not be considered a party office. None of the persons listed in (i) through (iv) of this subdivision may sign the application or certificate as a witness for the patient.

(5) Repealed by Session Laws 1987, c. 583, s. 8.

(6) For any person to take into that person's possession for delivery to a voter or for return to a county board of elections the absentee ballot of any voter, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to a voter's near relative or the voter's verifiable legal guardian;

(7) Except as provided in subsections (1), (2), (3) and (4) of this section, G.S. 163-231(a), and G.S. 163-227.2(e), for any voter to permit another person to assist the voter in marking that voter's absentee ballot, to be in the voter's presence when a voter votes an absentee ballot, or to observe the voter mark that voter's absentee ballot.

(b) The State Board of Elections or a county board of elections, upon receipt of a sworn affidavit from any qualified voter of the State or the county, as the case may be, attesting to first-person knowledge of any violation of subsection (a) of this section, shall transmit that affidavit to the appropriate district attorney, who shall investigate and prosecute any person violating subsection (a).

Provisional Voting Summary

A provisional ballot is offered to voters when there are questions about:

- a voter's qualification to vote,
- the voter's eligibility to vote in a given election, or
- the voter's eligibility to vote a specific ballot style.

The determination of whether a provisional voter's ballot will be counted is contingent upon the verification of the voter's eligibility to vote the ballot. Provisional research is conducted after each election to determine whether the provisional ballots cast are eligible to be counted. The determination of whether to approve any provisional ballot is made by the members of the county boards of elections before the results of the election are finalized at the time of the county canvass.

Provisional voting is fail-safe voting – without fail, when a person presents to vote, the voter will be given the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to cast a regular ballot on the voting equipment that day.

Provisional Procedures

When voters present to vote at the check-in station, if there is an indication that the voter will be unable to vote a regular ballot, the voter will be directed to the **Help Station** to receive guidance on casting a provisional ballot. The voter will be given a **Help Referral Form** that will explain the reason why the voter is being referred to the Help Station.

Provisional Voting Packet

At the Help Station, an election official will help the voter complete a *Provisional Voting Application* and will issue the voter a provisional ballot and envelope. A voter may also be given a *Reasonable Impediment Declaration* to complete if the voter is voting provisionally due to an obstacle or *impediment* that prevented him from obtaining an acceptable type of photo ID. The voter will be instructed to vote his ballot in private and once completed, to seal his voted ballot into the provisional envelope and return the sealed envelope to the **Help Station**.

Provisional Voter Instructions

The voter will also be given instructions on how to check the status of his provisional application. A voter will be given a Provisional Identification Number (PIN) that he will use along with his date of birth to check the status of his provisional application. Provisional voters may check the status of their provisional application **no earlier than 10 days after the date of the election**. The election official will also inform the voter of any additional steps required by the voter that will permit the board of elections to approve the voter's provisional application. For example, if the voter cast a provisional ballot because he did not show acceptable photo ID, the election official will inform the voter to appear in person at the board of elections office **no later than noon on the day before the county canvass** and show an acceptable type of photo ID to an election official. The official will provide the voter with the specific date by which he will need to appear at the board of elections office in order for his ballot to be counted.

Provisional Research

All provisional envelopes are returned to the board of elections where the provisional applications are researched by board of elections staff to assist the county board members in making a decision on whether the ballots should be counted. The determination on whether to count a provisional ballot will be made before the results of an election are finalized. If a provisional application is approved, the voter's provisional ballot will be removed from the sealed envelope and the ballot will be counted or *partially counted*. Sometimes, ballots are only partially counted if a provisional voter was not entitled to vote for all of the contests on the ballot. If a provisional application is not approved, then the ballot will remain sealed in the provisional envelope.

Provisional Voting Reasons

NO RECORD OF REGISTRATION	Used when no record of registration for the voter can be found in the voter record.
UNREPORTED MOVE	Used when a voter provides an address within the county of their registration that is different than the voter's current registered address, and the voter indicates that he moved to the new address 30 or more days prior to Election Day.
PREVIOUSLY REMOVED	Used when it is determined that a voter was previously registered in the county but their registration was cancelled for some reason. A voter's registration may be cancelled due to any number of reasons (moved within state; moved to another state; felony conviction; removed due to list maintenance; sustained challenge; deceased, etc.)
UNRECOGNIZED ADDRESS (GEOCODE ISSUE)	Used when the precinct official or early voting worker is unable to locate the address stated by the voter in the county's street lookup files.
INCORRECT PRECINCT	Used when a voter is requesting to vote at a polling place on Election Day that is not the polling place for the voter's proper precinct. The voter's proper precinct is the precinct assigned to the voter based on their address 30 or more days prior to Election Day.
INCORRECT PARTY	Used only in a partisan primary when a voter insists upon voting a ballot for a party other than the party of which the voter is affiliated.
VOTER ALREADY VOTED	Used if the voter record indicates that the voter who is presenting to vote has already cast a ballot in the election.
JURISDICTION DISPUTE	Used if a voter presents to vote and has no eligible ballot style or the voter requests to vote for an election contest that is not in the voter's assigned voting district based on their legal voting residence.
VOTED DURING EXTENDED HOURS	Used if the hours for voting are extended by the State Board of Elections or a court order.

Provisional Data Files

A record of provisional transactions for an election event can be found on the State Board of Elections website, available at: <ftp://alt.ncsbe.gov/ENRS/> (look for the files entitled "provisional" and then find the proper election event date). Provisional transactions for an election event become available the day after election day and will continue to be updated through the election's county canvass day.

Campaign Etiquette

Littering Statutes for Political Candidates in North Carolina

§ 14-156. Injuring fixtures and other property of electric-power companies: It shall be unlawful for any person willfully and wantonly, and without the consent of the owner, to take down, remove, injure, obstruct, displace or destroy any line erected or constructed for the transmission of electrical current, or any poles, towers, wires, conduits, cables, insulators or any support upon which wires or cables may be suspended, or any part of any such line or appurtenances or apparatus connected therewith, or to sever any wire or cable thereof, or in any manner to interrupt the transmission of electrical current over and along any such line, or to take down, remove, injure or destroy any house, shop, building or other structure or machinery connected with or necessary to the use of any line erected or constructed for the transmission of electrical current, or to wantonly or willfully cause injury to any of the property mentioned in this section by means of fire. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. (1907, c. 919; C.S., s. 4328; 1993, c. 539, s. 94; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

§ 136-32. Other than official signs prohibited: No unauthorized person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any warning or direction sign, marker, signal or light or imitation of any official sign, marker, signal or light erected under the provisions of G.S. 136-30, except in cases of emergency. No person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any traffic or highway sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising: Provided, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the erection or maintenance of signs, markers, or signals bearing thereon the name of an organization authorized to erect the same by the Department of Transportation or by any local authority referred to in G.S. 136-31. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The Department of Transportation may remove any signs erected without authority. (1921, c. 2, s. 9(b); C.S., s. 3846(r); 1927, c. 148, ss. 56, 58; 1933, c. 172, s. 17; 1957, c. 65, s. 11; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; 1977, c. 464, s. 7.1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1030, s. 39; 1993, c. 539, s. 981; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c).)

19A NCAC 02E .0415: Advertising signs within right of way: It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect or place any advertising or other sign, except regulation traffic and warning signs approved by the Department of Transportation, on any highway or the right of way thereof, or so as to overhang the right of way, or to permit the erection or placing of any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, on a n y highway right of way which is situated over any land owned, rented, leased or claimed by such person, firm or corporation . It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or other corporation that has erected, or placed, or permitted to be erected or placed, any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, or for any person, firm or corporation owning, renting, leasing or claiming any land over which a highway or highway right of way is situated, and on which highway or highway right of way any advertising or other sign has been erected or placed, to allow such advertising or other signs to remain o n state highway or right of way thereof. History Note: Authority G.S. 136-18(10); 136-30; Eff. July 1, 1978.

No Electioneering Near the Front Entrance to a Voting Site

No electioneering may occur within the area immediately outside of the front entrance of a voting place. This area will be marked by signage to designate the area of the “buffer zone,” which is typically **50 feet** from the front entrance but in any case must be **at least 25 feet** from the front entrance. Persons may not engage in electioneering in this restricted area. If a political sign is placed in this restricted area, it will be removed. If the voting site is located on private property, additional

limitations on electioneering activities on the property may apply. Every voting site will offer curbside voting in a designated area, to allow voters with disabilities to cast their vote in a vehicle. If curbside voting is located outside of the “buffer zone”, then electioneering restrictions will be in place to ensure the privacy of curbside voters. For more information about the area in which electioneering is restricted for a specific voting site, contact your local County Board of Elections office.

Issues or Complaints at Voting Sites

Any issue or complaint relating to a voting site should first be brought to the attention of the polling place's Chief Judge (or, in the case of a One-stop early voting site, staff or manager of the voting site). If the issue cannot be resolved by the election official at the voting site, contact the local County Board of Elections office.



BE SEEN. BE HEARD.

VOTE WITH ID
In North Carolina

NC VOTER ID

BEGINNING IN 2016, MOST VOTERS WILL NEED TO SHOW ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE POLLS.



NC DRIVERS LICENSE/PERMIT
(may be expired up to 4 years)



NC IDENTIFICATION CARD
(may be expired up to 4 years)



US PASSPORT/PASSPORT CARD
(unexpired)



MILITARY IDENTIFICATION CARD
(unexpired, if there is an expiration date)



VETERANS IDENTIFICATION CARD
(unexpired, if there is an expiration date)



CERTAIN TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CARDS
(** see requirements below)

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE OF THESE FORMS OF ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE NC IDENTIFICATION CARD FROM THE DMV.

UNABLE TO GET AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID?

Voters who are unable to obtain an acceptable photo ID due to a reasonable impediment may still vote a provisional ballot at the polls. A reasonable impediment may include the lack of proper documents, family obligations, transportation problems, work schedule, illness or disability, among others. Voters must also:

- (1) Sign a declaration describing the impediment they face; and
- (2) Provide their date of birth and last four digits of their Social Security number, or present their current voter registration card, or present a copy of an acceptable document with their name and address.*

VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

Photo ID is not required to cast a mail-in absentee ballot. Absentee Ballot Request Forms are available online, at the county board of elections and at all one-stop early voting locations, and can be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the date of the election.

OVER THE AGE OF 70?

Voters who are 70 years of age or older may use any acceptable photo ID that has been expired for any length of time, provided the photo ID expired after their 70th birthday.

* Acceptable documents include a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

** Cards issued by North Carolina-recognized tribes and approved by the State Board of Elections are acceptable for voting if they have an expiration date and are unexpired. Cards issued by federal-recognized tribes are acceptable if they have an expiration date and are unexpired, or if they have an issuance date and were issued within eight years.

FORGOT YOUR ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID?

Voters who do not present an acceptable photo ID at the polling place may still vote a provisional ballot that will be counted if the voter later presents an acceptable photo ID at their county board of elections office before noon on the day before their county board canvasses the election.

QUALIFIED TO VOTE CURBSIDE?

Voters who cannot enter the polling place without assistance because of age or disability may vote from their vehicle. Those voters may present either an acceptable photo ID or another acceptable document with their name and address.*

OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES?

Additional options exist for voters with a sincerely held religious objection to being photographed, voters who are victims of certain declared natural disasters, and newly registered voters who possess a drivers license or non-operators license issued within the United States. For details, visit www.VoterIDnc.gov.

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE GETTING ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID OR HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS:



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Elections

WWW.VOTERID.NC.GOV

1-866-522-4723



NC VOTER ID

BEGINNING IN 2016, MOST VOTERS WILL NEED TO SHOW ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE POLLS.



NC DRIVERS LICENSE/PERMIT
(may be expired up to 4 years)



NC IDENTIFICATION CARD
(may be expired up to 4 years)



US PASSPORT/PASSPORT CARD
(unexpired)



MILITARY IDENTIFICATION CARD
(unexpired, if there is an expiration date)



VETERANS IDENTIFICATION CARD
(unexpired, if there is an expiration date)



CERTAIN TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CARDS
(** see requirements on back)

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE OF THESE FORMS OF PHOTO ID, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE NC ID CARD FROM THE DMV

GETTING YOUR FREE NC DMV ID CARD:

Step 1: Gather the documents and information you will need:

1. Two documents that prove your age and identity (examples: a birth certificate, court documents, or tax forms).
2. One document to prove your North Carolina residency (examples: a lease, voter registration card, or utility bill).
3. Your Social Security number.

Step 2: Bring these items to any DMV drivers license office or DMV mobile unit, and be sure to say you are there for your free NC Identification Card. DMV locations can be found at the website below.

WWW.VOTERID.NC.GOV



NEED OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS?

If you were born or married in North Carolina, you are eligible for a free birth or marriage certificate if you need it to get your NC Identification Card for voting. contact the NC Office of Vital Records at (919) 733-3000 or your county's Register of Deeds Office to request a certified copy of your records for voting purposes. If you were born or married out-of-state, contact that state's vital records office to receive a certified copy.

UNABLE TO GET AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID?

Voters who are unable to obtain an acceptable photo ID due to a reasonable impediment may still vote a provisional ballot at the polls. A reasonable impediment may include the lack of proper documents, family obligations, transportation problems, work schedule, illness or disability, among others. Voters must also:

1. Sign a declaration describing the impediment they face; and
2. Provide their date of birth and last four digits of their Social Security number, or present their current voter registration card, or present a copy of an acceptable document with their name and address.*

VOTING ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

Photo ID is not required to cast a mail-in absentee ballot. Absentee Ballot Request Forms are available online, at the county board of elections and at all one-stop early voting locations, and can be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the date of the election.

QUALIFIED TO VOTE CURBSIDE?

Voters who cannot enter the polling place without assistance because of age or disability may vote from their vehicle. Those voters may present either an acceptable photo ID or another acceptable document with their name and address.*

FORGOT YOUR ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID?

Voters who do not present an acceptable photo ID at the polling place may still vote a provisional ballot that will be counted if the voter later presents an acceptable photo ID at their county board of elections office before noon on the day before their county board canvasses the election.

OVER THE AGE OF 70?

Voters who are 70 years of age or older may use any acceptable photo ID that has been expired for any length of time, provided the photo ID expired after their 70th birthday.

OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES?

Additional options exist for voters with a sincerely held religious objection to being photographed, voters who are victims of certain declared natural disasters, and newly registered voters who possess a drivers license or non-operators license issued within the United States. For details, visit www.VoterIDnc.gov.

NEED HELP? HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have special needs or circumstances, are having difficulty getting the documents you need, or can't get to a DMV office, help is available. Please visit our website or contact the Voter Outreach Team at 1-866-522-4723.

* Acceptable documents include a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

** Cards issued by North Carolina-recognized tribes and approved by the State Board of Elections are acceptable for voting if they have an expiration date and are unexpired. Cards issued by federally-recognized tribes are acceptable if they have an expiration date and are unexpired, or if they have an issuance date and were issued within eight years.



1-866-522-4723

VoterID.nc.gov

NC State Board of Elections

Voter ID Materials Request Form

To help us meet your needs, please provide the following information. Please allow one week for processing from the date of the request. If you have questions, call Jennifer Faulkner at (919) 715-2891. Thank you!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address (no PO Box): _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Organization/Target Group: _____ Distribution Location: _____

Event Description: _____ Expected # of Attendees: _____

DATE NEEDED: _____



Poster (English)

Needed _____
A 12" x 18" one-sided poster providing the list of acceptable photo IDs, information on select exceptions and voting methods, and the Voter Outreach team's contact information.



Push Card (English)

Needed _____
An 8.5" x 3.75" two-sided card providing a list of acceptable photo IDs, guidance on obtaining a photo ID from the DMV, information on select exceptions and voting methods, and the Voter Outreach Team's contact information.



Poster (Spanish)

Needed _____
A 12" x 18" one-sided poster in Spanish providing the same information as the Poster.



Push Card (Spanish)

Needed _____
An 8.5" x 3.75" two-sided card providing the same information as the Push Card.



Magnet (English)

Needed _____
A 2" x 3.5" magnet providing NCSBE contact information.

Other (Please describe below)

Needed _____

Submit this form by email to VoterOutreach.sboe@ncsbe.gov or by mail to PO Box 27255, Raleigh, NC 27611